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PATENTS
Attorney Docket No. GAL/1 CIP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Peter A. Ssekely
Group Art Unit : 1714
Applicants : Evan Galen et al.
Application No. : 09/872,314 Confirmation No. : 4906
Filed : June 1, 2001
For : OIL AND WATER REPELLENT COMPOSITIONS
AND METHODS OF APPLICATION THEREOF

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New York, New York
April 16, 2003

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the March 17, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application. A response is due on or before April 17, 2003. Accordingly, this reply is timely filed.

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The Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required restriction of the claims of this application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 into one of the following groups:

- Group I: Claims 1-25 and 40-41, drawn to compositions;
- Group II: Claims 26-36* and 38, drawn to methods; and
- Group III: Claims 37 and 39, drawn to coated substrate.

The Examiner states that the inventions are distinct from each other because Groups I and II are related as product and process of use. The Examiner further states that Groups I and III are related as mutually exclusive species in an intermediate-final product relationship.

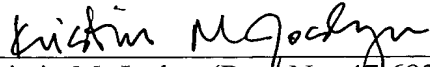
Applicants elect Group I for further prosecution in the present application. Pursuant to MPEP 821.04, applicants will request rejoinder of the Group II and Group III claims with the elected Group if and when any of claims 1-25 and 40-41 are found to be allowable.

Applicants make this election of Group I claims without waiver of their rights to file divisional or continuing applications directed to any non-elected subject matter, which claim priority from this application under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

* The Office Action states that Group II is drawn to claims "2-46 and 38, drawn to method." However, claims 26-36 and 38 of the application as filed recite method claims. Thus, Group II is drawn to claims 26-36 and 38.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephonic interview would be helpful, he is invited to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at any time. Applicants request favorable consideration and early allowance of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin M. Joslyn (Reg. No. 47,692)

Agent for Applicants

FISH & NEAVE (Customer No. 1473)

1251 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10020-1104

Tel.: (212) 596-9000

Fax: (212) 596-9090